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ABSTRACT

To answer the need for better communication between elementary school parents and teachers, this book begins with a theoretical and philosophical framework and reviews the research and current thinking about the need for and value of partnerships between home and school. The book also considers some special needs of parents in today's increasingly complex and diverse society. Most of the book is devoted to presenting guidelines and discussing specific ideas and strategies for building a communication partnership. Specific activities identified and reviewed in the book include: school-wide picnics and potlucks; August open house; back-to-school night and open house; newsletters; translations for non-English-speaking parents; a call a day; report cards; parent and teacher conference techniques; the parent center; interactive parent-teacher journals; welcome video; parent welcome and outreach; tips for success booklet; parent handbook; and parent nights. Sample letters and flyers to promote activities are included. (NKA)

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